

Minutes of the East Greenwich School Committee

Tuesday, July 16, 2013

Archie Cole Middle School

100 Cedar Avenue

East Greenwich,, RI 02818

The regular session of the East Greenwich School Committee was called to order in the library of Archie Cole Middle School at 7:12 P.M. by Chair, Mr. David Green. All present were Dr. Deidre Gifford, Vice Chair; Mrs. Susan Records; Mrs. Mary Ellen Winters; Mr. Jack Sommer; Mr. Clark Smith; and Ms. Carolyn Mark, as well as Dr. Victor Mercurio, Superintendent of Schools and Mrs. Maryanne Crawford, Director of Administration.

7:12 P.M. Regular Meeting Called to order

Mr. Green announced two votes were taken in executive session, which was 7-0 on the matter of administrative contracts and superintendent's evaluation.

I. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

II. Public Comments

Meadowbrook Parent, Jen Madden asked whether there would be discussion regarding the

progress at Meadowbrook. Mr. Green stated that he would be giving an update on MBF later

in the meeting.

III. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Dr. Gifford, the Regular and

Executive Minutes for June 18, 2013, were unanimously approved.
(7-0)

IV. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Mercurio would like to recognize the All State athletes at the next meeting in August.

He would also like to formally recognize Mr. William Sequino for his 25-years of service to

the Town of East Greenwich. He also reported that approximately 850 individuals have

responded to the on-line bus registration. The final report will be forwarded to Debbi at

Ocean State for scheduling. Dr. Mercurio stated that he will use the data collected through

the School Committee survey to start the District Strategic Planning Workshop. He still

needs 5 reports. Dr. Mercurio noted that Meadowbrook Farms' renovations, past and future

are posted on the website. Mr. Sullivan will be transitioning out of SBS. His replacement

has 40 years of experience and updated reports will be coming in timely updates. Current

project is not as large as last year and everything is on target and

on schedule.

V. School Committee Concerns

There were no School Committee Concerns

VI. Actions Items

a. Resignations-Laura Gladding, Meadowbrook; Pamela Testoni, Hanaford; Ryan Burns, EGHS

On a motion made by Mrs. Winters and seconded by Dr. Gifford, the resignations were unanimously accepted. (7-0)

b. Appointments –

- 1. Scott Douglas-EGHS Girls' Soccer Head Coach**
- 2. Fay Etchingham-EGHS Football Cheerleading Head Coach**
- 3. Terri Garno-EGHS Girls' Volleyball Head Coach**
- 4. Ryan Garno-EGHS Girls' Volleyball Assistant Coach**
- 5. Deb McMullen-EGHS Girls' Field Hockey Head Coach**
- 6. Margaret Naughton-EGHS Girls' Field Hockey Head Coach**
- 7. John George-EGHS Football Head Coach**
- 8. Kyle Mushaweh-EGHS Football Assistant Coach**
- 9. George Dolan-EGHS Football Assistant Coach**
- 10. Bill Conway- EGHS Football Assistant Coach**
- 11. Andy Butler- EGHS Football Assistant Coach**
- 12. Stephan Whittaker- EGHS Volunteer Football Assistant Coach**
- 13. Pat McGuirl- EGHS Boys' Soccer Head Coach**
- 14. Dave Rooney- EGHS Boys' Soccer Assistant Coach**

- 15. Marc Brocato- EGHS Girls' Tennis Head Coach**
- 16. Rob Petrucci-EGHS Girls' Tennis Assistant Coach**
- 17. Peter Dion- EGHS Boys' Cross Country Head Coach**
- 18. Erin Newman EGHS Cole Girls' Soccer Head Coach**
- 19. Stephanie Gloria-Cole Girls' Soccer Head Coach**
- 20. Dan Gloria-Cole Boys' Soccer Head Coach**
- 21. Caitlin Coulombe-Cole Co-ED Cross Country Head Coach**

On a motion made by Mrs. Winters, and seconded by Mr. Sommer the appointments were unanimously approved. (7-0).

c. Parental Leave-Veronica Monroe-Hanaford

On a motion made by Mrs. Winters and seconded by Dr. Gifford, the parental leave was unanimously approved (7-0)

d. Policies

1. Second Read/Adoption #1210 Statement of Non-discrimination and Equal Opportunity-

On a motion made by Dr. Gifford and seconded by Ms. Mark the adoption of #1210 was unanimously approved (7-0) with minor revisions.

2. Second Read/Adoption of #4220 Mental Health Policy-

On a motion made by Ms. Mark and seconded by Mrs. Winters the adoption of #4220 was unanimously approved (7-0) with minor revisions.

VII. Discussion

a. Secondary Schedules

Dr. Mercurio explained that the high school schedule projects normal rotation of days/periods but has a modified plan on Wednesdays.

The faculty comes in at 7:30 A.M. for shared common planning time and the students start at 8:05 A.M. He explained that the students have one-half hour less instructional time on Wednesdays. Dr. Gifford asked whether this time is made up. Dr. Mercurio stated that the instructional time was not made up. Dr. Gifford asked, "How do we meet instructional minutes?" The high school schedule was shared with the Department of Education and no feedback was forthcoming. This schedule was in place during the accreditation visit and they were comfortable with it. While doing research regarding other schools' schedules in 2009-2010, he discovered that other schools were following this schedule. He also explained that a different schedule is followed during mid-year exams. He explained that the overall schedule is part of the collective bargaining unit.

Cole Middle School Schedule also affords teachers shared common planning time, but student are offered electives, e.g., foreign language, music, technology, family consumer science. Dr. Mercurio stated that there are 3 lunch rotations for grades 6, 7 & 8. The manner in which this takes place is very impressive. Ms. Mark stated that Cole has a 5 minute longer day than the high school. Perhaps the high school could add on 5 minutes to their schedule? Explaining how compressed the schedules are could help to describe the need for an extended day.

b. Affordable Health Care Act

Mrs. Crawford explained that she attended two seminars and 1 webinar and still has a lot of questions. We are obligated to offer health care to any employee who works 30 hours or more a week.

This list of employees includes, substitutes and coaches with a district measurement period of 6-9 months, and we must be consistent each year. The implementation of the plan was to have taken place in January 2014, but the Obama administration has delayed the plan until January 2015. Any substitute that works 30 hours or more has to be offered health insurance. An investigation of a part-time employee's roles within the school or town must be done. For example, a sub may work 2 days a week and then coach, sponsor an athletic event, or work with the recreation department. The town and the school would be part of a "corporate umbrella." The offered insurance would be single plus dependent, which constitutes the family plan. The co-share would be 9.5% of the household income. If we have 20 long-term subs times \$16,000.00, it will be a major impact to our budget. If we miss someone, the exchange will penalize us \$2,000.00 per employee. Taxes: In 2014-\$1.00 per member per contract-family of 5=\$5.00. In 2015 -\$63.00 per member per contract=\$43,000 - 45,000 for us. Sunset 2019. Mrs. Crawford stated that she will be attending another webinar. AESOP has been working with schools in restricting the number of days subs are called. Mrs. Crawford has been looking at the income of the paraprofessionals on Step 1. At this time, they pay 15% if they make less than \$36,000. However, that may change, if they fall under the Affordable Health Care Act. There will be a budgetary impact in 2014. Mr. Green suggested controlling the number of hours for part-time employees. Mrs. Crawford stated that the biggest problem will be with the coaches. Fifty percent are employees while advisors are 80/20. There

are and will be many questions, and Mrs. Crawford stated that she will need to consult with our legal council. Mr. Sommer offered the finance committee's help. Mrs. Crawford will keep the School Committee posted.

c. RIDE 2013 School Classifications

Three building administrators involved –Michael Podraza, High School Principal; Neil Marcaccio, MBF Principal; Alexis Meyer, Cole Principal; Dr. Mercurio passed out a powerpoint and proceeded to explain the process of RIDE's accountability system. MBF and the high school are in warning status. Evaluation is in many categories, but 1 category may take you down—1 sub group will place you into warning status. A particular sub-category can keep you down no matter how well you do in other categories. Ms. Mark asked whether the process should be explained to parents as they are bound to see the results. Mr. Green said that before we give out any information, let the administrators gain a clear understanding. (See attachment)

d. End-of-year Financial Update FY 2013

Mrs. Crawford stated that preliminarily there will be a surplus of \$800,000.00.

- State revenue-underfunded \$139,000.00
- Rebate/Construction Project \$71,000.00
- 21 LTS subs—usually 12/15 --12,000.00-15,000.00 savings per sub
- Health Insurance approximately \$250,000.00-more information in August

VIII. Adjournment

Mrs. Winters made a motion to adjourn at 8:29 P.M. and Mr.

**Sommer seconded the
motion which was unanimous. (7-0)**

**Margaret M. Ucci
Secretary**